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Arlington March 14th 1783 235:120

Sir

I have the honor to inclose your Excellency an address from the Legislature of Vermont, on the resolutions of Congress respecting the State of the 5th of December last. together with sundry papers related to the subject, agreeable to your Excellency's request in your letter covering said resolutions to me —

Permit me, Sir. to request that you will duly lay the same before Congress. I would further inform your Excellency and Congress, that agents are appointed and duly authorized to negotiate on the part of this State the admission thereof into the federal Union of the United States, and eventually to represent this State in Congress: And it is with the fullest confidence that Congress will not make any further determinations respecting this State, Without first giving due and seasonable notice, to attend, at Philadelphia, that they do not at this time of the year, enter upon the journey which must be expensive, and might be productive fruitless and unsuccessful

I have the Honor to be
with
your Excellency's
most obt Humble servant
Thomas Chittenden

His Excellency
Elias Boudinot Esqr

235:121

Sunderland Aug. 25th 1783

Gentlemen

By present information by James Savage Esqr I am informed that the Kings troops will soon Leave New-York and that there are a Number of Wealthy Merchants and others some of which left the State of New-York on being scrupulous about taking a certain Oath and who have not taken armes during this war that wish to become Citizens of this State— The Respective interest of those Gentlemen and that of this State are such that should they apply to the Legislature at their next convening it cannot fail of engaging in a happy Union as I am fully sensible that such a measure would be countinanced by most of the Men of influence and a large Majority of the People of this State— The Legislature will convene on the second Thursday of Oct. next at Westminister which will be their first session since the News of Peace consequently it will be necessary for them to repeal some former Acts respecting Trade with the Provinces of Quebec and turn their attention to the interest of the State in times of peace in their present situation being without any alliance and almost any public debt in this Deliberation it will be natural to consider what will add to the wealth strength and unanimity of this State

Should you think this State an object worth your attention would recommend to you that you looke no time in repairing to this place where you might be further informed and that you might have time to

Return to New-York and consult your friends there
and if you should think proper for you and them to apply
to the Legislature at the time mentioned above
I have the Hon. to be
With due respect
Your most obedient
& Humble Servant
Ira Allen

& Henry Wanscoik
David Wanscoik

235:122

Quebec 18th Feb 1784

My Dear Sir

I intended to have made a visit this Winter but not yet being My own Master his Excellencys commands have detained me too long here to think now any more of it especially as my family are all sick with the Measles and requeire me to hasten to their assistance—— I hear there is a new Rat layed on the unsettled Lands in Vermont—I have reason to believe you still retain your former Kind sentiments of friendship for me which we mutually Entertained before the Unhappy War. this belief Emboldens me to request you will use your influance to prevent any of my Lands from being sold to pay this tax; by represented to your authority (which Thereby empowers you to do) that I will pay it when called upon—— your compliance will greatly oblige. Dear Sir

Your friend and humn. Servt.

C. Sherwood

Colonel Ira Allen

State Of Vermont } Arlington March 26th 1794

Sir With that respect for Congress which the citizens of this State have ever maintained, I beg leave to transmit to your Excellency the sentiments of the Council of this State, on the late proceedings of the senate & Assembly of the State of New York respecting this State, That your Excellency may lay the same before Congress, for their consideration

On the 27th of October 1779 the Legislature of the State of New York passed a special law empowering Congress to hear & determine the Controversy between that State and this, not upon the principles of the confederation, but according to Equity, and on the 7th and 27th of August 1781. Congress proposed Preliminaries of a settlement of the said Controversy to this State, which were accepted and fully complied with by the Legislature of this State at their session in February in 1782. The Legislature of the State of New York in the November preceding settlement of Congress aforesaid, on extract of which remonstrance is as follows

"Resolved That in case of any attempt of Congress to carry into execution their said acts of the 7th and 27th of August last, this Legislature with all due deference to Congress, are bound in duty to their constituents to declare the same an assumption of power in the face of the said act of Cession of this State, and against the clear letter and spirit the second third sixth and eleventh Articles of Confederation and manifest infringement of the same, and do therefore solemnly protest against the same"

But of late it appears that the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York are again urging Congress to decide their Controversy with this State. It seems they are willing Congress should settle the dispute as they have a mind, but not otherwise. It appears from the late journals of the senate of the State of New York, "That the delegates be further instructed to press Congress for a decision in the long protracted controversy respecting

the right of this State to the district commonly called the
New Hampshire Grants" and further "But that if the
must recur to force for preservation of her lawful
authority. the impartial world will pronounce that now
of the Blood shed, disorder, or dissension, which may insue
can be imputable to this Legislature". As to this bloody proposition
the Council of this State have only to remark, that Vermont
does not wish to enter into War with the State of New-
York. But that She will act on the defensive. and expect
that Congress and the united States, will observe a strict
Neutrality. and let the two contending States settle their own
Controversy. As to the Allegations of the State of New York
against the conduct of this State, in bringing open Malecontents
to justice, and obedience to Government, whom they had
inspired with sedition. I have only to observe, that this matter
has been managed by the wisdom of the Legislature of this
State, who consider themselves amenable to no earthly tribunal.
Before I conclude this Letter. I beg leave to remind your
Excellency, that it appears to this Council of this State improper
that the States of New York & New Hampshire, who are competitors
for the jurisdiction thereof, should vote in Congress on any
matter which respects Vermont, and also contrary
to an express resolution of Congress of the 24th of Sept. 1779 in the
words following "And that neither of the said States shall vote
on any question relative to the decision thereof" That is, relative
~~relative~~ to the independence of Vermont, although it appears
from the Journals of Congress, that There ~~many~~ Claimers
States have ever since voted on all matters in
which the ~~the~~ interest of this State have been concern
~~decision also~~. I enclose this Letter with the satisfaction
of reminding Congress that this State is still desirous
of a confederation with the United States. I have the Honour to be
with the highest respect your Excellency's most obedient
His Excellency the Pr. (and very humble Servant Thomas Chittenden

From the Vermont Gopette - vol 1784.

235:124

To the Public

In pursuance of special direction from his Excellency Governor Chittenden. I am to convey the following letter addressed to his Excellency the president of Congress to be communicated to the public through the channel of the Vermont Gopette, for their satisfaction and curiosity. It is the last transaction of this state with Congress. to which letter there has been no answer returned

I have further to observe. that a few months past the delegates of New York. in Congress presented a memorial. that they would make a resolution respecting the independency of Vermont,

Upon which Congress appointed a Committee which have reported that Vermont ought to be an independent State. but that it should be procrastinated untill some southern States should likewise be created & untill the conditions of the administration of this State into the Federal union of the United States should be agreed on

This is the last doings of Congress respecting this State that has come to hand. except that the delegates of the State of New York urged Congress to take up and act on their said Committee's report which they negatived

It is undoubtedly the wisdom and good policy of republican governments to inform their citizens of the management and circumstances of their political matters so far as that their opponent States or other adversaries may not take advantage of it. this then should be the criterion of the promulgation of public policy. for it is injurious to the public good to expose the cabinet councils so that enemies may avail themselves of such advantages. This —

This maxim has ever been duly adhered to by the leading gentlemen of this State, which has given occasion to some to censure those gentlemen in public trust. tho: at the same time they have strenuously acted agreeable to the best good of the community.

The short of the matter is, that indiscriminate publication of state policy defeats itself and annihilates its own existance.

I would by no means debar the gentlemen of talking and plotting in politics for this would deprive them of a great share of their happiness and importance. but I would not have them complain of their benefactors. nor alter the measures of their superiours. The foreign policy of this government has been demonstrated to be good in the final consequences of it. and the state is in good and respectable condition at present. it only remains that our courts of equity and law do impartial justice and that our citizens support the honor and dignity of our laws. and cordially combine to support our liberty and independency

I now the Publick most obedient and humble servant

Ethan Allen

* Chittenden Letter to the President of Congress Dated at Sunderland April 26th 1784. Published in Thomsons Journal of November 30th 1784. from which the above letter is copied